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Romulus News

MAY 28, 2004 – JUNE 10, 2004 "the little paper" VOLUME 17 NUMBER 22

Timely Tidbits ...

Rummage Sale

Due to last weekend's inclement weather, the annual Romulus City-wide Rummage Sale has been rescheduled for Thursday, June 3, through Sunday, June 6. For a list of sale sites, pick up a flyer at the Romulus Recreation Department (36515 Bibbins).

Great Graduates!

This issue of "the little paper" is chock-full of information about the latest crop of seniors to tip their graduation caps in farewell to Romulus High School. See inside for a Class of 2004 members list, Awards Night coverage, and more.

Sumpter Country Fest

The annual Sumpter Country Festival is open throughout the Memorial Day weekend. For more information, please see page 6.

Preschool Story-time

Children ages three to five are invited to take part in the Romulus Public Library's summer Preschool Story-time program. Parents may choose either morning sessions (10:30 a.m. Thursdays from June 17 through July 22) or evening sessions (7 p.m. Tuesdays from June 15 through July 20). Although the program is free, preregistration is required. Call 734-942-7589.

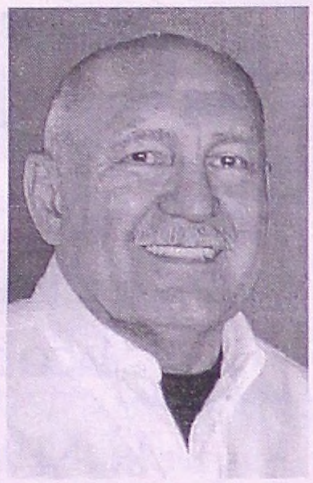
Summer Reading

The Romulus Public Library invites school-age youths to take part in its annual Summer Reading program, which will run from June 16 through July 28.

Participants who reach "reading milestones" will be eligible for a number of prizes, thanks to the generosity of the Romulus Friends of the Library, the Greater Romulus Chamber of Commerce, the Romulus Rotary Club, and the Huron Township Rotary Club. Prize drawings will also be held after special weekly programs that will emphasize this year's "Discover New Trails" theme. (Watch for details in our June 11 issue.)

Registration begins June 1. Call 734-942-7589. ❑

School Board Candidates Express Views



Leo Knasiak

Thomas Kuderik

Betty Lenossi

Dennis Lubas

Editor's note: To help voters decide which candidates they will support in the upcoming Romulus Community Schools Board of Education election (set for Monday, June 14), "the little paper" recently distributed a questionnaire to the four candidates who are vying for the two available seats.

The five questions asked of the candidates were deliberately general in format, giving everyone a chance to focus on the issues that they consider to be the most important. Personal data was also solicited to give voters some idea about each candidate's background, experience, and knowledge of/dedication to the community.

No word limit was placed on the responses; candidates were invited to provide as much (or as little) detail as they wished.

To avoid the appearance of giving anyone preferential treatment, the responses have been arranged alphabetically, according to the candidates' last names.

* * *

LEO L. KNASIAK, JR.

Age: 60

Education:
bachelor's degree in business management, minor in accounting/finance

Occupation (past and present):
financial analyst, inventory control manager, internal control auditor at Ford Motor Co. General Offices for 31 years

Professional memberships:
(no response)

Military service:
officer during the Vietnam Era (1965–1968)

Government/school offices or agencies, community-service groups, and/or churches of which you are or have been a member:
none (consider some group members to have conflicts of interest; consider myself an independent person)

Other community-service work:
none

Marital status/name of spouse:
divorced

Children (if any):
one daughter

Number of years as a resident within the school district:
17 years

Telephone number where residents can contact you with questions and/or concerns:
734-326-5992

* * *

Question #1: As you seek election to the Romulus Community Schools Board of Education, what single issue is the primary plank of your campaign platform?

No single issue can ever be a reason to seek an elected position. Over the past 18 years that I have lived in Romulus, the present school board has never sought to inform the public openly. They have constantly refused to have live open meetings. If I am elected, I will lobby other school board members to break away from the past and move forward into the 21st Century. The school board needs to be transparent, accountable, independent, and willing to look for ways to reduce the school property taxes that are weighing on the residents of Romulus and stagnating growth.

Question #2: Of all the actions/policies adopted by the board in the past four years, which one would you most like to see changed? Keeping in mind the powers and limitations of your position (if elected), and the fact that your vote would be but one of seven, how would you go about accomplishing such a change?

The action that the present board has continuously overemphasized, in my opinion, is the sports program. The amount of money spent to promote sport activities for a limited few has left other students to go without.

Expansion and development in the arts and music areas are also required. These areas reach out to a wider group of students and provide them with a cultured experience to grow by.

Question #3: During that same four-year period, what do you believe has been the board's single biggest success? How would you further improve upon it?

The board's biggest success has been the refinancing of school bonds, which allowed a minuscule tax reduction to the residents.

Having a strong background in finance and management will allow me to expose expenses and duplications which can be eliminated, and allow for future tax reduction.

Question #4: The various additions and improvements funded by the 1999 bond issue are now complete. In your opinion, what should be the district's next major project, and how should it be funded?

The next major project should be to promote a "vocational program."

continued on page 2

School Board Candidates Express Views

continued from page 1

We need to improve the opportunities of students who do not plan to attend college. The majority of the working public never attends college. The Romulus school system needs to change its focus and provide more fundamental opportunities for the students.

I do not see any reason why additional funding would be required to promote a program of this nature. The tax base currently being collected provides more than adequate funds needed to start a vocational program in our school system.

If additional funding is required, then large corporations should be recruited to offset additional costs, giving them a vested interest in our graduating vocational students.

Question #5: Why are you seeking election to the Romulus Community Schools Board of Education, and what makes you the best candidate for the job?

I want to provide the opportunity for the residents of Romulus to elect a school board member who has a strong analytical, financial, and managerial background in business and operations.

This type of individual can evaluate necessary and unnecessary school expenditures objectively. It is a win-win proposition both for taxpayers who have children currently enrolled in our school system and for those whose children have already graduated.

* * *

THOMAS KUDERIK

Age: 40

Education:
Romulus High School graduate (1982); various leadership classes and management classes

Occupation (past and present):
special waste administrator, operations manager, driver and mech. supervisor

Professional memberships:
(no response)

Military service:
U.S. Army (1982–1989; honorable discharge)

Government/school offices or agencies, community-service groups, and/or churches of which you are or have been a member:
Romulus Athletic Club (8 years) and Romulus Little League (5 years); Boy Scouts (8 years); Ford Thunderbird Kart Club (5 years)

Other community-service work:
have worked with the PTC and also have given time to help teachers when asked

Marital status/name of spouse:
Pam Kuderik

Children (if any):
Thomas (15; Romulus High School) and Justin (13; Romulus Middle School)

Number of years as a resident within the school district:
lifetime resident (except while in the Army)

Telephone number where residents can contact you with questions and/or concerns:
734-941-3910

* * *

Question #1: As you seek election to the Romulus Community Schools Board of Education, what single issue is the primary plank of your campaign platform?

The most important issue I see is the education of our students. We need to insure that every student has every possible chance at a good education. This will help shape the student to become an important person. Also important is the welfare of district employees.

Question #2: Of all the actions/policies adopted by the board in the past four years, which one would you most like to see changed? Keeping in mind the powers and limitations of your position (if elected), and the fact that your vote would be but one of seven, how would you go about accomplishing such a change?

(no response)

Question #3: During that same four-year period, what do you believe has been the board's single biggest success? How would you further improve upon it?

During the past four years, the school district has been doing a lot of new upgrades to our schools, giving our students one of the best places in the state to go for an education. We also have one of the best football/soccer fields and lacrosse fields in the state. Our new pool at the high school is a great addition to our district. The only way I feel I could improve one of these items is by getting the word out to our students that they are available for use.

Question #4: The various additions and improvements funded by the 1999 bond issue are now complete. In your opinion, what should be the district's next major project, and how should it be funded?

One thing I would like to see is more advanced-type classes in all of our schools, not just in the high school. Start in the grade schools. We have a lot of very smart young people in our schools today, and sometimes the daily school work is not enough for them. They are hungry for education, and I feel it is our job to feed them. Also, I would like to see other types of sports for our students, like a middle school and high school swim team.

Question #5: Why are you seeking election to the Romulus Community Schools Board of Education, and what makes you the best candidate for the job?

continued on page 3

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School Board Candidates Express Views

continued from page 2

I feel that I would make a great addition to the current school board because I listen to the people of the district and the students. I have been working with students from this city for many years. I have seen what they have and I have seen what the district has to offer our students. I also see what students these days have in school to choose from, and what I had in school to choose from. I also feel that the students in our district need to be aware of everything the district has to offer them.

* * *

BETTY M. LENOSSI

Age: (no response)

Education:
Cooley High School; Wayne State University

Occupation (past and present):
formerly a Romulus Community Schools school bus driver (29 years); presently the transportation coordinator for the Romulus Senior Center (8 years)

Professional memberships:
Michigan Association of School Boards; Regional Educational Services Agency; American Association of Retired People; Romulus Seniors Social Club

Military service: no

Government/school offices or agencies, community-service groups, and/or churches of which you are or have been a member:
current member of the Romulus Community Schools Board of Education (8 years); current member of St. Aloysius Catholic Church (38 years); past Girl Scouts leader; past president of Local 64 Union (and other offices)

Other community-service work:
March of Dimes – driver; Breast Cancer Walk on Belle Isle – driver; Romulus Senior Center – tax coordinator and volunteer; past involvement in Little League (football and baseball)

Marital status/name of spouse:
Daniel (deceased after 37 years of marriage)

Children (if any):
3 children (2 girls and 1 boy)

Number of years as a resident within the school district:
38 years

Telephone number where residents can contact you with questions and/or concerns:
734-941-3984

* * *

Question #1: As you seek election to the Romulus Community Schools Board of Education, what single issue is the primary plank of your campaign platform?

As we go into financial crunches, I want to be there to oversee cutbacks.

Question #2: Of all the actions/policies adopted by the board in the past four years, which one would you most like to see changed? Keeping in mind the powers and limitations of your position (if elected), and the fact that your vote would be but one of seven, how would you go about accomplishing such a change?

No changes are necessary. Our schools are doing great as they are.

Question #3: During that same four-year period, what do you believe has been the board's single biggest success? How would you further improve upon it?

The board's biggest success has been its work on the bond issue for our new swimming pool.

I would like to see more open programs for senior citizens.

Question #4: The various additions and improvements funded by the 1999 bond issue are now complete. In your opinion, what should be the district's next major project, and how should it be funded?

The next major project probably should be a new school for all the new subdivisions that are being built. The funding could come from passing another bond issue, or maybe more taxes would be coming in.

Question #5: Why are you seeking election to the Romulus Community Schools Board of Education, and what makes you the best candidate for the job?

My past 8 years of experience on the board makes me the best-qualified candidate. I want to be there for the rough times our schools are facing. I know where cutbacks should be made.

* * *

DENNIS LUBAS

Age: 49

Education:
2 years of college

Occupation (past and present):
automotive assembly for Ford Motor Co.; also hotel management and chef

Professional memberships:
(no response)

Military service:
(no response)

Government/school offices or agencies, community-service groups, and/or churches of which you are or have been a member:
(no response)

Other community-service work:
(no response)

Marital status/name of spouse:
(no response)

Children (if any):
2 children – Dennis Stanley Lubas and Jill Lubas

Number of years as a resident within the school district:
17 years

Telephone number where residents can contact you with questions and/or concerns:
734-326-5992

* * *

Question #1: As you seek election to the Romulus Community Schools Board of Education, what single issue is the primary plank of your campaign platform?

Accountability. It seems that, all too often, elected officials put most of their focus on their own personal agendas. This doesn't serve the needs or wants of the people they are elected to serve.

Question #2: Of all the actions/policies adopted by the board in the past four years, which one would you most like to see changed? Keeping in mind the powers and limitations of your position (if elected), and the fact that your vote would be but one of seven, how would you go about accomplishing such a change?

Unbalanced spending. Too much emphasis has been placed on the sports programs. This serves only a minority of the students. There are a limited amount of funds, so the excesses that are being allotted to the sports programs come at the expense of other programs in our schools.

As a school board member, I would try to convince the others of the importance of arts and music programs. I would show them how a student's grades and attitudes are affected positively by an ongoing involvement in the arts.

Question #3: During that same four-year period, what do you believe has been the board's single biggest success? How would you further improve upon it?

The one issue of importance to all of the citizens of Romulus is taxes. The school board did reduce school taxes by the bond initiative, although my view is that the reduction did not go far enough. This goes back to accountability. We need to "tighten our belts" and look for ways to reduce spending, yet still provide a quality education for our students.

Question #4: The various additions and improvements funded by the 1999 bond issue are now complete. In your opinion, what should be the district's next major project, and how should it be funded?

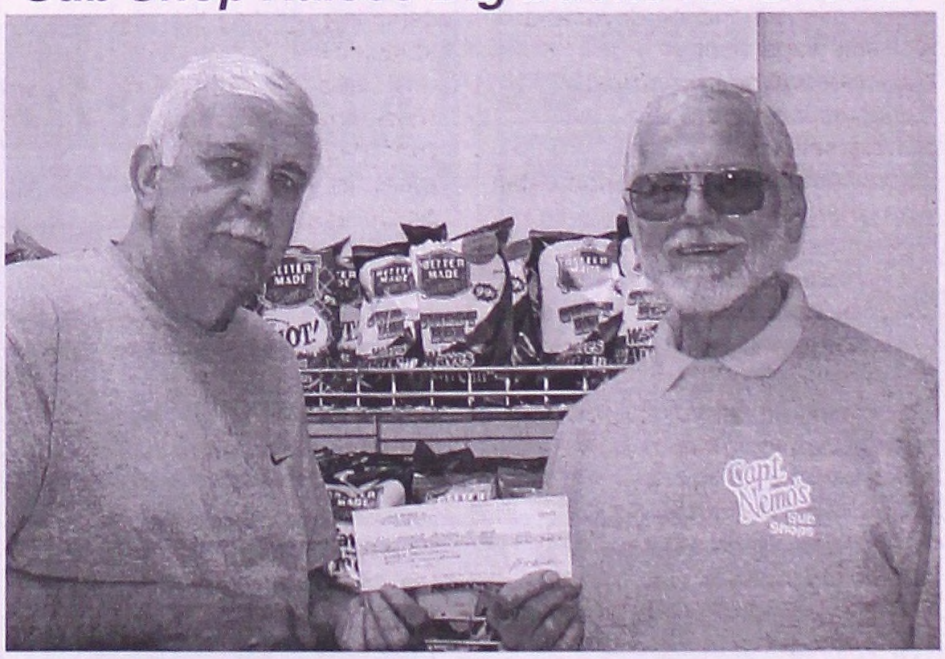
It is a proven fact that students who participate in the arts and/or music programs have a high grade point average. Their self image vastly improves. Most importantly, participation in these programs has been found to better prepare them for life after school, which should be our main focus.

Question #5: Why are you seeking election to the Romulus Community Schools Board of Education, and what makes you the best candidate?

Accountability. Our school board needs to get back to basics. It needs to examine very closely how it is spending the tax dollars of our citizens. It needs to eliminate wasteful spending practices. It needs to divide monies more evenly amongst the programs serving the needs of the majority of our students, not just the small minority.

My focus is on our students: to provide the best, well-rounded education that our city can provide, and to see that all of our students are prepared for life after school, whether they are going on to college, a trade school, or wherever their paths should lead them. ❑

Sub Shop Raises Big Bucks for Shelter



John Brimble (right), owner of Captain Nemo's, presented Romulus City Councilman Bill Wadsworth with a $500 check for the Friends of the New Romulus Animal Shelter fund. The money was raised on May 11, when Brimble donated 20% of his restaurant's proceeds for the day. Brimble has also agreed to match his customer's donations (up to $500).

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Guest Commentary

Public Forum Provided Updates on Well

by State Senator Raymond E. Basham

I would like to thank the many citizens who attended my recent town hall meeting about Environmental Disposal Systems' proposed commercial hazardous waste injection well facility. I'm proud to be a part of their efforts to stop this facility from operating in Romulus.

State Representative Hoon-Yung Hopgood and I hosted the meeting to update concerned citizens about the status of the EDS project, and to inform them of various anti-well efforts.

Government officials attending the meeting included Steven Chester, director of the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality; Alan Lambert and Greg Pitoniak, mayors of Romulus and Taylor, respectively; Kurt Heise of the Wayne County Department of Environment; Alan Francois, representative for Congressman John Dingell; and Barbara McCallahan, representative for U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow. Numerous other community officials were also in attendance, along with members of Romulus Environmentalists Care About People (RECAP) and the Downriver Association of Realtors (DRAR).

One new development that was discussed at the town hall meeting was the expiration of EDS's two Class I commercial hazardous injection well permits. EDS has applied to the Environmental Protection Agency for renewal of these permits. I believe that this offers an important opportunity for the EPA to re-evaluate its original decision. The public can be assured that I will use this opportunity to again voice my concerns about this environmental nightmare threatening our communities as well as to raise specific issues about the construction, operation, and monitoring of these wells. I expect the EPA to seriously reconsider the basis by which the wells were permitted.

As required by law, the EPA has scheduled a public hearing on the permit renewals for Tuesday, June 29, from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Crowne Plaza Hotel (8000 Merriman Road, Romulus). Public comment – which will be accepted through July 12, 2004 – may be mailed to EPA Region 5 (WU-16J), UIC Branch (Attn: Dana Rzeznik), 77 W. Jackson Blvd., Chicago, IL 60604-3590, or it may be e-mailed to rzeznik@epa.gov.

Every day that EDS doesn't operate is a victory for all of us. We are more motivated now than ever before, and we will not stop fighting until we have defeated EDS. The EPA decision granting EDS its land ban exemption led many citizens to believe the fight was over. I want to assure you all that our fight continues – it continues on many fronts – and will until this project is stopped.

Editor's note: The "Guest Commentary" column is open to all responsible individuals and spokespersons who would like to comment on issues of interest to people who live and work in Romulus. Opinions expressed in "Guest Commentary" are not necessarily shared by the staff of "the little paper." ❑

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1:00	Dean Martin	7:00	Garth Brooks
2:00	Jerry Lee Lewis	8:00	Elvis
3:00	Aretha Franklin	9:00	Beatles (60's)
4:00	Stevie Wonder	10:00	Lionel Richie
5:00	Cher	11:00	Beatles (Sgt. Pepper)

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Community Calendar

- **NAACP Hosts First Annual Prayer Breakfast** – The Western Wayne County Branch of the NAACP is inviting the public to attends its first annual Prayer Breakfast at New Hope Missionary Baptist Church (33640 Michigan Avenue, Wayne) from 8 a.m. to noon on Saturday, May 29. Theme for the event: "A Nation Built by Prayer – Equality and Justice for All." Tickets (available in advance and at the door) are $15 per person. For reservations/ information, call 734-955-1983.
- **Legacy Five in Concert!** – Bethany Bible Church of Belleville will present Legacy Five in concert at 7 p.m. on Friday, June 11, in the auditorium at Romulus High School (9650 South Wayne Road, just north of I-94). Tickets are $10 in advance; $12 at the door (if still available). For ticket information, please call 734-697-7456 or visit www.bethanybiblechurch.com.
- **Michigan Army National Guard "Open House"** – The Michigan Army National Guard will host an open house from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, June 12, at the Taylor Armory (12450 Beech Daly Road). The event will allow participants an opportunity to tour the armory, ride in a military Hummer, simulate firing an M16 rifle using laser-beam technology, scale a rock-climbing wall, and view exhibits of artillery, military police, and radio communication equipment. Free hot dogs, popcorn, and pop will be served. For more information, call 734-946-0097.
- **Summer Swim Club** – School-age swimmers are invited to sign up for the Romulus Swim Club's summer session, which will be held at Romulus High School from 6 to 7 p.m. each Tuesday and Thursday from June 15 through July 22 (middle- and high-school grades), and each Wednesday and Friday from June 16 through July 23 (elementary grades). This is *not* an instructional program; the only requirement is to be able to swim one length of the pool. Cost is $30 per child for residents, $45 for nonresidents. Registration may be made any weekday from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Mt. Pleasant Center, located at 39000 Superior, or call 734-532-1956 for a registration form.
- **Harmony Hoedown** – Community United Methodist Church is inviting the public to attend a Harmony Hoedown at 7 p.m. on Friday, June 18, at the church (11160 Olive, across from the Romulus Police Department). Featured performers for the evening will be the County Connection Chorus – a local division of Sweet Adelines, an international women's organization that sings barbershop-style music *a capella*. The popular group is known for its choreography and "corny jokes" as well as its four-part harmony, and offers family entertainment at its best. For more information, call 734-941-0736.
- **Summer Girls' Basketball Camp** – Girls in grades three through nine are invited to take part in the 2004 Romulus Girls' Basketball Camp, to be held from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Monday, June 21, through Thursday, June 24, in the field house at Romulus High School (9650 South Wayne Road). The purpose of the camp will be to teach fundamental skills while promoting enthusiasm for the game. A cost of $35 per person includes a camp T-shirt and prizes for competitions (free throw, hot shot, and one-on-one). Deadline for registration is Friday, June 4. For more information, call 734-532-1008.
- **Historical Society Hosts Flea Market** – The Romulus Historical Society will host its first annual Flea Market at Romulus Historical Park (located downtown on Hunt Street next to the post office) on Saturday, June 26, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Rental space fee is $15; participants must supply their own tables. For more information, call Gloria at 734-941-2678.
- **Police Officers To Host Charity Golf Outing** – The Romulus Police Officers Association has planned its sixth annual Charity Golf Outing for Friday, August 6, at Gateway Golf Course in Romulus. A donation of $75 per person covers 18 holes of golf (7 a.m. registration; 8 a.m. shotgun start; four-person-scramble format), cart, golf shirt, door prizes, lunch at the turn, steak dinner, and beer & pop. Payment is due by July 23. Checks may be made payable to: Romulus Police Officers Association. For more information, call Rodney Staffeld or Steve Littleton at 734-941-8400.
- **Chamber To Host Charity Golf Outing** – The Greater Romulus Chamber of Commerce has planned its annual Charity Golf Outing for Thursday, August 26, at the Woodlands of Van Buren. The event will feature a banquet as well as awards and prizes. For more information, call 734-326-4290.

To place information in our next issue's Community Calendar, mail it to "the little paper" at P.O. Box 74038, Romulus, MI 48174–0038; FAX it to us at 734-992-2052; or call 734-941-1907

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Kindergartners Learn About Romulus Community Leaders

Cathy Kudra's kindergarten students enjoyed their visit with Romulus Mayor Alan R. Lambert.

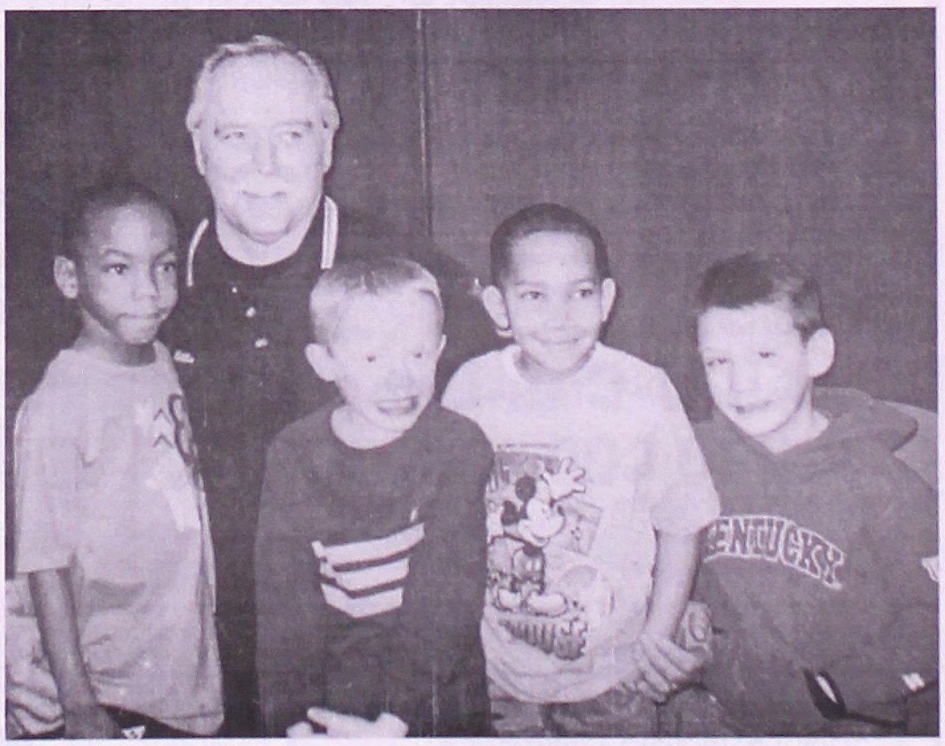
As part of a unit on community leaders and their responsibilities, kindergartners from Cathy Kudra's class at Halecreek Elementary School visited Romulus City Hall earlier this year. A number of officials – including Mayor Alan R. Lambert, Public Safety Director Charles Kirby, and Officer Tom Ellis – took time from their busy schedules to talk with the children about their jobs.

Mayor Lambert told the students that he wants Romulus to be a good place for people to live, work, and go to school. After answering all their questions, he gave them a tour of his office.

Director Kirby and Officer Ellis discussed the police department's role in keeping Romulus residents safe.

Following their visit to City Hall, Kudra's students wrote a "class book" about their trip. It was an enjoyable learning experience for all. ❑

Director of Public Safety Charles Kirby talked to Trevor Christian (left) and Isaiah Thomas.



Officer Tom Ellis, community liaison to the Romulus Police Department, talked with (from left) Robert Lands, Jonathan Johnson, Isaiah Thomas, and Nickolas D'Ambrose about how police help children in Romulus.

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"Awards Night" Honors Best and Brightest at RHS

Principal Dan Hurst welcomed a large crowd of students and guests to Romulus High School's annual Awards Night program. District officials on hand to honor the best and brightest from the Class of 2004 included Tom Dolan, director of curriculum, as well as Romulus Board of Education president Betty Lenossi, vice-president Cheryle Buckley, and trustees Celeste Roscoe, Ken Mientkiewicz, and Niema White.

Hurst noted that he was particularly impressed with the 216-member senior class, which included 24 students who achieved a four-year Principal's Honor Roll grade point average of 3.5 or higher, and an additional 36 who maintained a four-year Honor Roll GPA of 3.0 or above. Hurst also praised the 45 students who won $2,500 Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP) scholarships and the 18 Michigan Competitive Award recipients who were recognized for achieving excellent scores on the American College Test (ACT).

RHS staff members were on hand to present departmental awards to outstanding students in their respective disciplines, and counselor Jim Orme read a preliminary list of college scholarship recipients from the Class of 2004.

Community groups, businesses, and individuals donated well over $30,000 in scholarships to help students with their post-secondary educational expenses. Acknowledged for their generosity were the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Romulus Arts Council, Romulus Athletic Boosters Club, Romulus Community Schools Administrators Association, Romulus Education Association, Romulus Kiwanis Club, Romulus Mayor's Drug Task Force, Romulus Rotary Club, Special Tree, and Zeta Phi Beta Sorority. Also thanked were donors for scholarships in memory of Doug Allen, Robert Brock, Lorena Burton, Mikey Markus, and Aaron Tigner.

Mark Woodson, the district's new athletic director, presented a record 19 awards to students who completed four-year careers on various sports teams.

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Photos of the some of the award recipients listed below appear on pages 10 and 15.

Co-valedictorians

Patrick McCollum, La'Joya Orr, Toni Gibson, Ryan Tackett, and Sara Schulz.

President's Education Awards

Note: The 24 President's Education Award winners maintained a four-year GPA of 3.5 or above, and are listed according to their class rank.

Patrick McCollum, La'Joya Orr, Toni Gibson, Ryan Tackett, Sara Schulz, Kristina Rafalski, Kenneth Booker, Natalie Blake, Britany Sawdy, Deborah Anderson, LaToya Flint, Sarah Lindroth, Jessica Frost, Rhiannon Crawford, Roy Hollis, Jr., Aamer Ahmad, Rebecca Thornton, Jeffrey Hoffman, Ie'sha Taylor, Sarah Herbert, Darnell Anderson, Christian Hadden, Angela Lukas, and Sabrina Gomes.

Academic Honors/Kiwanis Awards

Note: These students maintained a four-year GPA of 3.0 or higher.

Aamer Ahmad, Darnell Anderson, Deborah Anderson, Natalie Blake, Kenneth Booker, Carla Broom, Cassie Caldwell, Kristina Camilleri, Ronald Coleman, Jr., Jerry Collie, Jr., Elliot Craig, Rhiannon Crawford, Jenessa Deshazor, Carissa Drobil, LaToya Flint, Lauren Fox, Jessica Frost, Randall Frye, Toni Gibson, Sabrina Gomes, Stephanie Gurner, Christian Hadden, Terry Harper, Novella Haugabook, Justin Heins, Danielle Hendricks, Sarah Herbert, Jeffrey Hoffman, Roy Hollis, Jr., Shaenna Kettlewell, Sarah Lindroth, Angela Lukas, Cherise Lundy, Michael Mancine, Patrick McCollum, Patrick Miller, Matthew Mortzfield, JuJuan Mosby, Ashley Much, Hanya Ombima, La'Joya Orr, Kristina Rafalski, Denisa Rakic, Kristi Rice, David Rogala, Britany Sawdy, Sara Schulz, Ricky Staten, Patrecia Sucharski, Ryan Tackett, Ie'sha Taylor, Rebecca Thornton, Kyle Wasson, Mark Wheeler, Marvin Wheeler, Cherie Whorton, Jurbar Williams, Reese Williams III, Marissa Wilson, and Jeremiah Yeager-Hudson.

Michigan Competitive Awards (ACT)

Darnell Anderson, Deborah Anderson, Natalie Blake, Kenneth Booker, Elliot Craig, Carissa Drobil, Randall Frye, Toni Gibson, Sarah Herbert, Roy Hollis, Jr., Timothy Lewis, Sarah Lindroth, Patrick McCollum, La'Joya Orr, Kristina Rafalski, David Rogala, Sara Schulz, and Ryan Tackett.

Departmental Awards

- Darnell Anderson (drama; French)
- Deborah Anderson (outstanding science; robotics; Spanish; technical education)
- Natalie Blake (best senior project finalist; student government)
- Cassie Caldwell (health)
- Kristina Camilleri (best senior project)

Co-valedictorians for Romulus High School's Class of 2004 are (from left) Sara Schulz, Ryan Tackett, La'Joya Orr, Toni Gibson, and Patrick McCollum.

- Keisha Cotton (health)
- Jenessa Deshazor (culinary arts)
- Tia Fleming (accounting)
- LaToya Flint (health)
- Anthony Foster (band)
- Jessica Frost (co-op – internship)
- Toni Gibson (algebra)
- Stacey Gilbert (co-op – health occupations)
- Ariola Gjikola (outstanding foreign language)
- Sabrina Gomes (student government)
- Joseph Goroni (physics)
- Sarah Herbert (band)
- Roy Hollis, Jr. (business; government)
- Juliana Jayme (choir)
- Constance Kersey (physical education – female)
- Jeremy Linderman (industrial technology – auto)
- Sarah Lindroth (best senior project finalist)
- Angela Lukas (best senior project)
- Michael Mancine (journalism)
- JuJuan Mosby (culinary arts)
- Krystal Oliver (health)
- Hanya Ombima (best senior project finalist)
- La'Joya Orr (band; biology; calculus; psychology)
- Nereida Pena (band)
- Kristina Rafalski (English)
- Tiffiney Ramsay (band)
- David Rogala (computer science – Web)
- Britany Sawdy (calculus)
- Sara Schulz (band)
- Tanesha Strickland (culinary arts)
- Ryan Tackett (band; best senior project)
- Kristen Townsend (co-op – office)
- Molly Tuttle (drama)
- Savannah VanKeuren (best senior project finalist)
- Justin Varga (culinary arts)
- Kyle Wasson (physical education – male)
- Thomas Watt (co-op – trade & industry)
- Jonathon Wilkerson (band)
- Reese Williams III (band)
- Marissa Wilson (yearbook)
- Jeremiah Yeager-Hudson (choir)
- Kevin Zajac (band)

Kiwanis Vocational Awards

- Jenessa Deshazor (culinary arts)
- Jessica Frost (co-op – internship)
- Stacey Gilbert (co-op – health occupations)
- Jeremy Linderman (automotive)
- Angela Lukas (information management)
- Kristen Townsend (co-op – office)
- Darryl Vesey, Jr. (marketing)
- Thomas Watt (co-op – trade & industry)
- Jonathon Wilkerson (CAD)

Four-year Varsity Awards

Darnell Anderson, Deborah Anderson, Lauren Block, Carla Broom, Jerry Collie, Jr., Thomas Drayton, Carissa Drobil, Sabrina Gomes, Danielle Gray, Mishielle Gray, Alicia Harbor, Sabrina Hool, Constance Kersey, Timothy Lewis, Philip Martin, Matthew Mortzfield, Natasha Murray, Adrian Simmons, and Jeremiah Yeager-Hudson.

Miscellaneous Awards

- Kenneth Booker (Bausch & Lomb science)

$2,500 MEAP Awards

Aamer Ahmad, Darnell Anderson, Deborah Anderson, Audrey Baskin, Natalie Blake, Kenneth Booker, Carla Broom, Cassie Caldwell, Kristina Camilleri, Jerry Collie, Jr., Elliot Craig, Rhiannon Crawford, James Davis, Jenessa Deshazor, Jessica Deverich, Thomas Drayton, Carissa Drobil, Lauren Fox, Jessica Frost, Randall Frye, Toni Gibson, Sabrina Gomes, Joseph Goroni, Christian Hadden, Justin Heins, Sarah Herbert, Roy Hollis, Jr., Shaenna Kettlewell, Kevin Kucharski, Sarah Lindroth, Victoria Lucaj, Angela Lucas, Michael Mancine, Patrick McCollum, Joseph Mitchell, Hanya Ombima, La'Joya Orr, Kristina Rafalski, Tiffiney Ramsay, David Rogala, Britany Sawdy, Sara Schulz, Rebecca Thornton, Derhonda Williams-Kennedy, and Ryan Tackett.

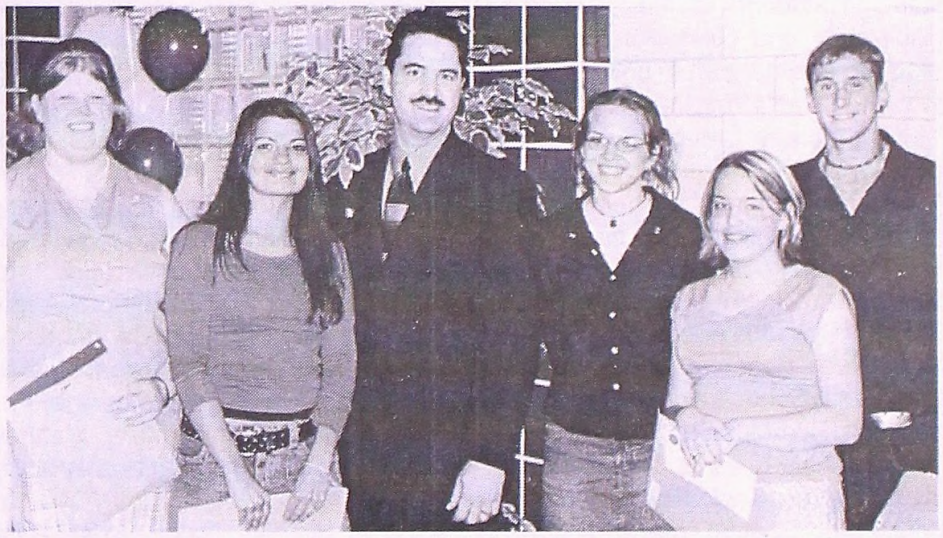
continued on page 16

Awards Night 2004

Proud to welcome guests to the annual Awards Night program were (from left) Mae Jackson (head counselor, RHS), Betty Lenossi (president, Board of Education), Tom Dolan (director of curriculum), Cheryle Buckley (vice-president, Board of Education), and Board trustees Niema White, Ken Mientkiewicz, and Celeste Roscoe.

Among those honored during the awards program were the top 10 students from Romulus High School's Class of 2004: (from left) front – Natalie Blake, Sara Schulz, Britany Sawdy, La'Joya Orr, Toni Gibson, and Patrick McCollum; back – Kenneth Booker, Kristina Rafalski, and Ryan Tackett. (Not pictured: Deborah Anderson.)

(From left) Roger Kadau was pleased to present Kiwanis vocational awards to Angela Lukas (information management), Stacey Gilbert (health occupations), and Jon Wilkerson (CAD).



34th District Court Judge Brian A. Oakley (third from left) presented $4,000 in Romulus Rotary scholarships to (from left) Marissa Wilson, Rebecca Thornton, Britany Sawdy, Sarah Lindroth, and Richard Davis.

(From left) CHS principal Al Wilkerson awarded $750 scholarships from Romulus Community Schools administrators to Angela Lukas and Natalie Blake. Maria Lambert (right) awarded $1,000 Romulus Arts Council scholarships to Kristina Rafalski and (not pictured) Deborah Anderson.

(From left) Carol Brock presented the $500 Robert Brock Scholarship to Marissa Wilson. Terry Lovett awarded the Lorena Burton Scholarship (which increases $1,000 each year for four years – $1,000 to $4,000) to Rebecca Thornton.

RHS Class of 2004

Thirteen years of perseverance will pay off on Saturday, June 5, 2004, when members of the senior class at Romulus High School attend their graduation ceremony and receive their hard-earned diplomas. We congratulate them on a job well done, and hope that their futures are filled with happiness and success.

AAMER AHMAD
DARNELL ANDERSON
DEBORAH ANDERSON
JASON ANDREWS
KEATON ARMSTRONG
CHARMAINE ATKINS
LYNETTE BAILEY
AUDREY BASKIN
ERIC BEHNKE
MYLES BELL
RICHARD BELL
ANDRE BELLE
ELIZABETH BERRY
RASHAD BINGHAM
JAMAR BIRD
NATALIE BLAKE
LAUREN BLOCK
WILLIAM BODDIE, JR.
KENNETH BOOKER
STEVEN BOSTAIN
NICOLE BRENNAN
JESSICA BRIGHT
RICHARD BRODERICK
CARLA BROOM
JOSHUA BROWN
CHARNITA BUTLER
JOSHUA CAIN
CASSIE CALDWELL
KRISTINA CAMILLERI
GERALD CANTRELL
DeMARVELOUS CARTER
JESSICA CASE
THERESA CHADWICK
CIERA CLARK
BRIAN COCHRAN
RONALD COLEMAN, JR.
JERRY COLLIE, JR.
RONNY CORNELIUS
KEISHA COTTON
RONDAL COX
RHIANNON CRAWFORD
CHRISTIE DAVIS
JAMES DAVIS
RALEAH DAVIS
RICHARD DAVIS
JENESSA DESHAZOR
JESSICA DEVERICH
TONYETTA DICKSON
LAWRENCE DOBBYN III
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CARISSA DROBIL
KARRAH DUNCAN
AMANDA ELDRIDGE
TIA FLEMINGS
LaTOYA FLINT
ANTHONY FOSTER
LAUREN FOX
JESSICA FROST
RANDALL FRYE
CHRISTINA FULTON
GEORJON GARLAND
STOREE GARNER
TONI GIBSON
STACEY GILBERT
ARIOLA GJIKOLA
ANTHON GLAZE
SABRINA GOMES
JOSEPH GORONI
ANGELITIA GRAY
DANIELLE GRAY
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STEPHANIE GURNER
CHRISTIAN HADDEN
ARTHUR HALL III
ALICIA HARBOR
TERRY HARPER
GLENN HARRIS, JR.
NOVELLA HAUGABOOK
JUSTIN HEINS
DANIELLE HENDRICKS
SARAH HERBERT
ERICA HINES
JEFFREY HOFFMAN
ROY HOLLIS, JR.
SABRINA HOOL
RASHAD JACKSON
JULIANA JAYME
BRANDON JOHNSON
ASHLEY JONES-MASKELL
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LISA LeBLANC
RONALD LeBLANC
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SARAH LINDROTH
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VICTORIA LUCAJ
ANGELA LUKAS
CHERISE LUNDY
MICHAEL MANCINE
AMEERA MARION
MUNEERA MARION
PHILIP MARTIN
MELODY McADOO
PATRICK McCOLLUM
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CILIA SANCHEZ
BRITANY SAWDY
SARAH SCHATILO
SARA SCHULZ
MELVIN SHIELDS, JR.
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ALICIA SIMS
BRANDON SLABAUGH
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LaTINA SMITH
MELISSA SMITH
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JENNIFER WILLIAMS
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DeRHONDA WILLIAMS-KENNEDY
ALTAVIA WILSON
KIERA WILSON
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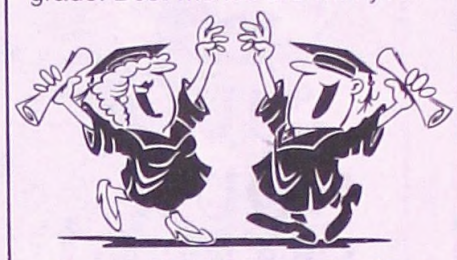

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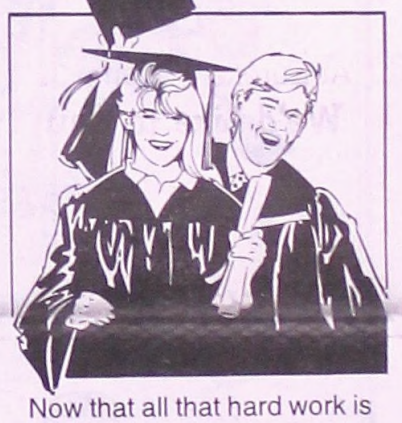

Now that all that hard work is behind you, many exciting and rewarding challenges lay ahead. It isn't always easy, but we know you'll give it the old college try!

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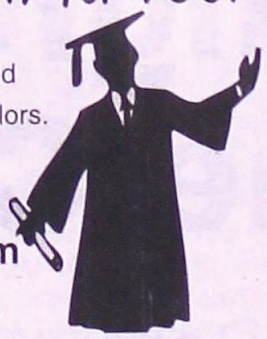

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Hats Off to the Class of 2004

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Today's Graduates . . .
Tomorrow's Leaders

Congratulations to the Class of 2004

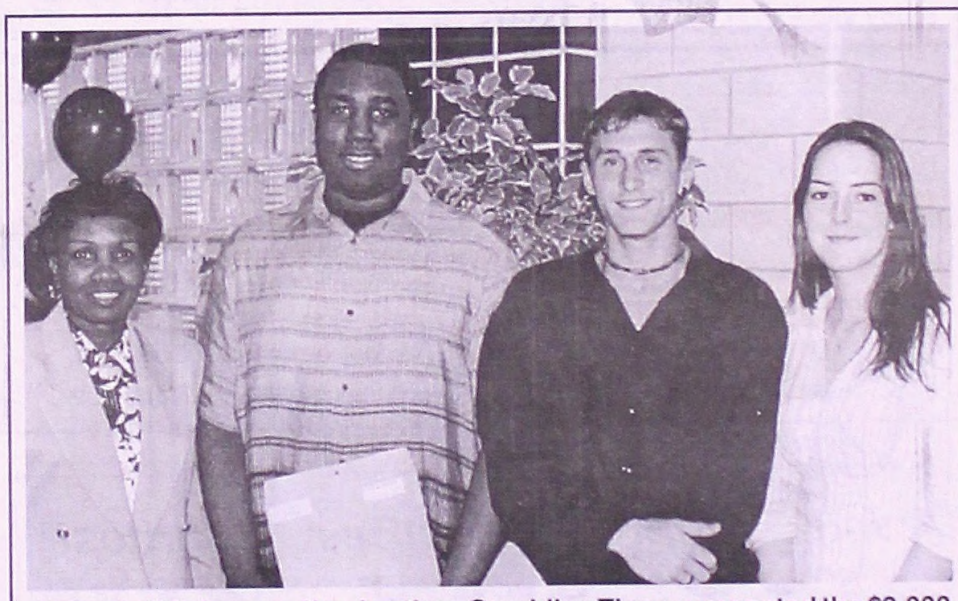
The Romulus Community Schools
Board of Education and Staff
would like to applaud the achievements
and accomplishments of all
Romulus graduates!
We are confident that you will continue
your commitment to education
and excel in your chosen field.

Awards Night 2004

(From left) Reverend Arthur Willis was very pleased to present a total of $2,000 in Romulus Mayor's Drug Task Force awards to Sabrina Gomes, Angela Lukas, Molly Tuttle, Sarah Lindroth, Stacey Gilbert, and Britany Sawdy.

(From left) Norena Lumpkin-Knox presented Zeta Phi Beta Sorority scholarships to Reese Williams and LaToya Flint. Kathy Abdo awarded $2,000 in Romulus Education Association scholarships to Rhiannon Crawford and Kristina Rafalski.

(From left) Romulus Booster Club officials Ron Dick and Cheryle Buckley presented scholarships to Elliot Craig, Kyle Wasson, and Sara Schulz. (Not pictured: Deborah Anderson.)



(From left) In honor of her brother, Geraldine Tigner presented the $2,000 Aaron Tigner Scholarship to Kenneth Booker. Richard Davis received the Mikey Markus Scholarship from former RHS valedictorian Andrea Deline.

(From left) Natalie Blake, one of the top 10 students in Romulus High School's Class of 2004, received a $500 scholarship from Ken Handwerger of Special Tree.

Romulus Middle School speech pathologist Amber Ackerman (second from left) was pleased to award $1,000 Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority scholarships to (from left) Kenneth Booker, Jerry Collie, and Elliot Craig.

Grant Enables MEAP Study on Internet

Edward Shinouskis (right), a process executive for EDS (Electronic Data Systems), proudly presented a check and certificate of merit to Charles Kidwell, CSRD (Comprehensive School Reform Demonstration) grant coordinator at Wick Elementary School. Kidwell wrote a successful technology grant that will enable Wick students to access "Study Island" – an Internet-based MEAP (Michigan Education Assessment Program) study site – over the next two years.

GRIEVING FAMILY SEEKS DOG

Duke, a 5-year-old male Chihuahua ("Taco Bell" dog) with a tan coat and white chest, was last seen on May 19 near the intersection of Middlebelt and Ecorse in Romulus.

Please help bring Duke home!

Call 734-728-5862

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24'-diameter above-ground pool, late '70s model w/all working parts, is absolutely free for the taking. Disassemble, load, & haul it away.

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"Awards Night" Honors Best, Brightest

continued from page 9

Local Scholarships/Awards

- Deborah Anderson (Romulus Arts Council; Romulus Booster Club)
- Natalie Blake (Romulus Community Schools Administrators; Special Tree)
- Kenneth Booker (Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority; Aaron Tigner Memorial)
- Jerry Collie, Jr. (Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority)
- Elliot Craig (Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority; Romulus Booster Club)
- Rhiannon Crawford (Romulus Education Association Memorial)
- Richard Davis (Mikey G. Markus Memorial; Romulus Rotary)
- Stacey Gilbert (Dwayne Martin/ Romulus Mayor's Drug Task Force)
- Sabrina Gomes (Dwayne Martin/ Romulus Mayor's Drug Task Force)
- Novella Haugabook (Mildred Washington)
- Sarah Herbert (Doug Allen Memorial)
- Sarah Lindroth (Dwayne Martin/ Romulus Mayor's Drug Task Force; Romulus Rotary)
- Angela Lukas (Dwayne Martin/ Romulus Mayor's Drug Task Force; Romulus Community Schools Administrators)
- Hanya Ombima (Ray Kroc Memorial)
- Kristina Rafalski (Romulus Arts Council; Romulus Education Association Memorial)
- Britany Sawdy (Dwayne Martin/ Romulus Mayor's Drug Task Force; Romulus Rotary)
- Sara Schulz (Romulus Booster Club)
- Rebecca Thornton (Lorena Burton Memorial; Romulus Rotary)
- Molly Tuttle (Dwayne Martin/ Romulus Mayor's Drug Task Force)
- Kyle Wasson (Romulus Booster Club)
- Reese Williams III (Zeta Phi Beta Sorority)
- Marissa Wilson (Robert Brock Memorial; Romulus Rotary) ❑

District Hosts School-to-Work Appreciation Breakfast

Welcoming area employers to the Romulus Community Schools' annual School-to-Work Appreciation Breakfast were a number of district officials, including (from left) Tom Dolan, director of curriculum; Ken Mientkiewicz, trustee, Romulus Board of Education; Cheryle Buckley, vice-president, Board of Education; Betty Lenossi, president, Board of Education; Dan Hurst, principal, Romulus High School; Marilyn Hidenfelter, coordinator, Work-based Learning; and Winifred Wafer, Transitions coordinator.

The Romulus Community Schools' Work-based Learning Program recently hosted its 34th annual Employer Appreciation Breakfast in the Romulus High School cafeteria. The program is a combined effort between the RHS Student Co-op Program and the Special Education Department's Transitions Program.

Co-op coordinator Marilyn Hidenfelter welcomed the large gathering that included representatives from 60 area businesses as well as the 93 students they employed.

Highlights of the event included:

- the presentation of a video featuring each business partner's establishment and co-op employee(s);
- remarks from guest speaker Boyd White of the University of Michigan Admissions Office; and
- delicious food prepared by the High School's culinary arts students under the supervision of their instructors, Charles Usztics and Angelica Richardson.

Following the breakfast, the Work-based Learning and Transitions students were recognized with certificates of achievement, and their business partners were honored with participation awards.

Area business partners included:

- AAA Michigan
- American Legion Post 200
- The Bake Shoppe
- Bank One
- Baskin-Robbins
- Bayou Grill
- Benlee, Inc.
- Block's Stand & Greenhouse
- Burger King
- Cannon's Warehouse
- Chat of Michigan
- Circuit City
- City of Romulus
- Concessions Michigan, LLC
- Cottage Inn Pizza
- Cracker Barrel
- CVS/pharmacy
- Dimitri's Country Kitchen
- DST Industries, Inc.
- Dynamic Mortgage
- Family Dentistry & Associates
- Fox Run
- Fred C. Fischer Library
- Future Real Estate, Inc.
- Gigglers
- Gilbert Brothers
- Hegira Programs
- Hellenic Cultural Center
- Hometown Buffet
- Host Marriott Services
- Hungry Howie's
- Jack Demmer Ford, Inc.
- Johnstone Supply
- Joint Clutch & Gear Service, Inc.
- JWS Services, Inc.
- Kentucky Fried Chicken
- Klisz, Spindler & Stern, P.C.
- Life Time Fitness
- Little Caesars
- The Loft by Katherine Ross
- McDonald's
- Meijer
- Metamode Unisex Salon & Spa
- Mike's Red Apple
- Oak Leaf Electrical Contracting, Inc.
- Paul's Roofing
- Prospect Airport Services, Inc.
- Pro-Tech Auction, Inc.
- Romulus Community Schools
- Quality 16
- Servpro of Canton
- Shoe Magik
- Superior Auto & Truck Service, Inc.
- Taco Bell
- T.J. Maxx
- T.L.C. Family Dentistry
- Waltonwoods
- WIllow Creek Assisted Living
- Wimsatt Distribution
- Work 'n Gear

For additional photos, please see page at right. ❑

Co-op Breakfast

Romulus Community Schools personnel enjoying the School-to-Work Breakfast included (from left) co-op student Toni Gibson, Pat Lukasik, Abbie Akins, Don Morris, Bill Routhier, Carole Bales, and Chris Harris.

City of Romulus personnel attending the program were (from left) Eva Webb, Dorothy Kitchens, co-op Sabrina Gomes, Paul Antolm, Maria Lambert, co-op Lauren Block, Julie Wojtylko, and Linda Choate.

Additional guests included Delores Puckett (left), Emily Skotak (right), and co-op students (from left) Jessica Kubicki, Tiffiney Ramsay, Stacey Gilbert, Walker Tomlinson, and Marissa Wilson . . .

. . . (from left) co-op Christal Csupak, Alice Kesner, Christie Harris, co-op Muneera Marion, co-op Jenessa Deshazor, Al Wilkerson, Joyce Schultz, co-op Dan Kreutzer, and co-op Samantha Stewart . . .

. . . Randall Frye, Sr. (right), and co-op students (from left) Natasha Murray, Lynsie Ransaw, Angelitia Gray, and Randall Frye, Jr. . . .

. . . and (from left) Theresa Blizman, Barb Fortune, and co-op students Lisa LeBlanc, Rebecca Thornton, and Savannah VanKeuren.

NHS Inducts 29 Members

Romulus High School's National Honor Society recently welcomed 29 new members during its annual induction ceremony. Principal Dan Hurst and NHS advisor Alberta Garrett were pleased with the record number of new members and proud that so many students met the high academic, citizenship, and community-service standards required for membership.

Honorary membership also was awarded to 42 top students from Romulus Middle School and the district's six elementaries: Barth, Cory, Halecreek, Merriman, Romulus, and Wick.

Superintendent Joel R. Carr opened the program by greeting guests and introducing Romulus Board of Education members Betty Lenossi, Celeste Roscoe, and Ken Mientkiewicz.

LaJoya Orr, NHS president, presided over the ceremonies and, along with vice-president Toni Gibson, read the accomplishments of each inductee. Novella Haugabook and Roy Hollis introduced the new honorary members, while Rebecca Thornton administered the NHS "membership pledge" and Sabrina Gomes gave the "charge to new inductees." ❑

Honorary National Honor Society inductees from Romulus Middle School were (from left) Rachel Arthur, Chelsea Earby, Arielle Morgan, and Leanna Pioli. (Not pictured: Katrina Jadzinski.)

Romulus High School's National Honor Society inductees for 2004 included (from left) Katrell Duncan, Doloris Garry, Krystle McKay, Ashley Moss, Megan Whalen, Ashlee Wells, Crystal Hahn, Bradley Bills, Patricia Silvey, Brittney Garrison, and Tiffany Motsch . . .

. . . as well as (from left) front – Paulette Stanford, Courtney MacDougall, Shauntya Simon, Jennifer Lammers, Kathryn Appel, and Amanda Willingham; back – Daniel Kinney, Justin Maupin, Lindsay Beregsasy, Jessica Workman, Carla Anderson, Jonathan McLachlan, Adam Delay, Megan Bearman, Kristine Plank, and Amber Gondek. (Not pictured: Antoinette Nelson and Ronald Carter.)

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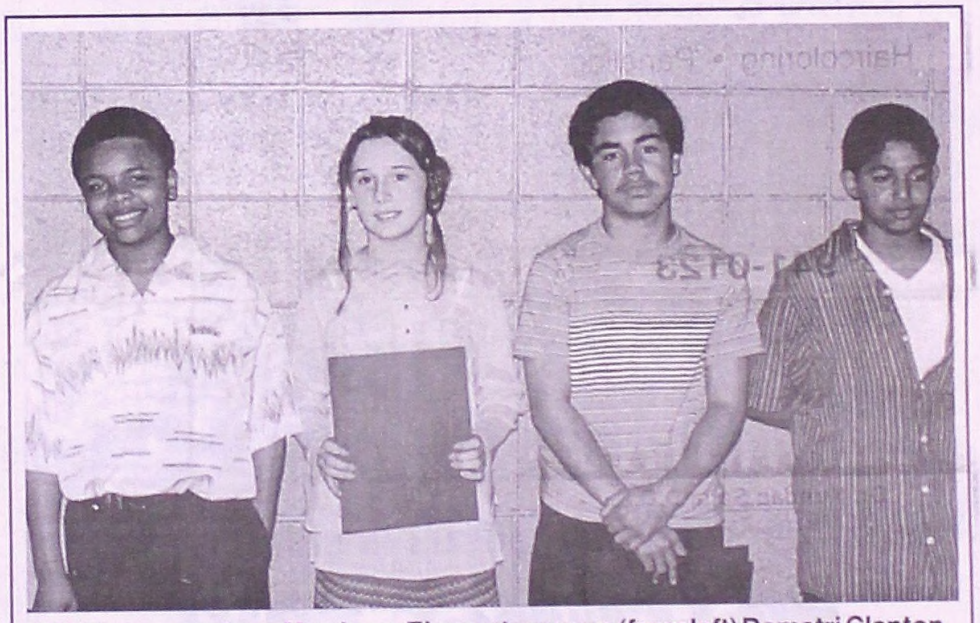
Saturday 2 pm – 12 Midnite
Sunday 3:30 pm – 9:30 pm
10% DISCOUNT ON ORDERS TOTALING $15.00 OR MORE
With coupon. Not to be combined with any other offer.

NHS Honorees, 2004

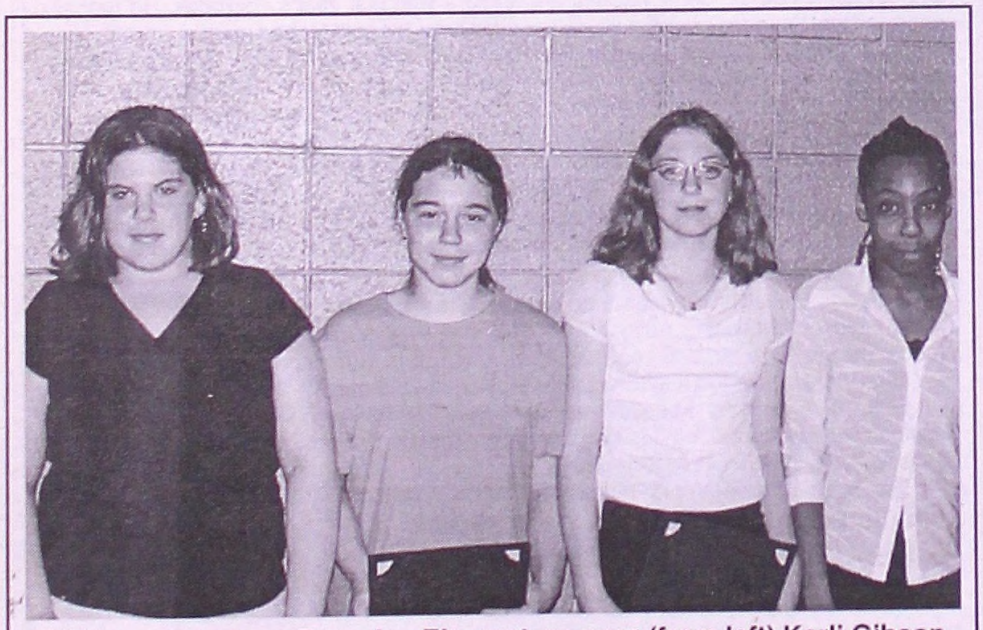
NHS honorees from Barth Elementary were (from left) Erica Hayes, Breanna Keels, Sheila Reeves, Briana Shreve, Daijah Street, and Ashley Wagle. (Not pictured: Sheila Watts.)

Cory Elementary's NHS honorees were (from left) Cieara Franklin, Caitlynn Lefler, Emmanuel Sanders, Brooke Tanner, and Krystal Wegrzyn. (Not pictured: Nadia Watson.)

Halecreek Elementary's NHS honorees were (from left) Aaron Bailey, Tamara Garrison, Tierra Garrison, Jazmyn Jones, Brittany Little, and Ryan McLachlan.



NHS honorees from Merriman Elementary were (from left) Demetri Clanton, Ciara Turner, Zachary Toilolo, and Kazam Sheikh. (Not pictured: Chance Dunigan and Joshua Thomas.)



NHS honorees from Romulus Elementary were (from left) Karli Gibson, Ashley Linnert, Cassie Rice, and Dayza Washington-Adams. (Not pictured: Cherra Ross and Justin Jadzinski.)

Wick Elementary's NHS honorees were (from left) Elea'ele Buford, LeAnne Dawson, Zachary Beregsasy, Seth Gasser, Stuart Nairemore, and Jason Moore.

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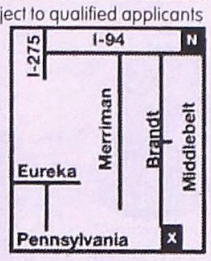

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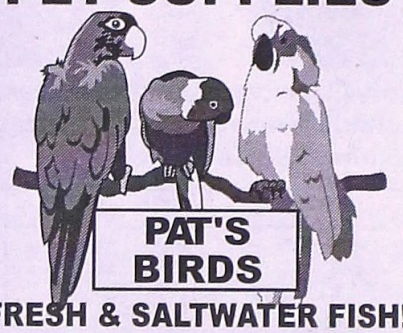

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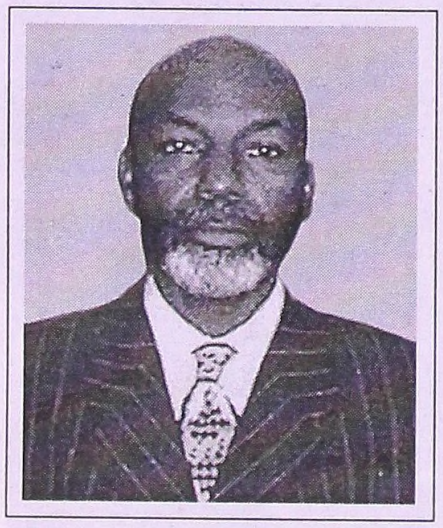
WELCOMES YOU!

"Let Us Worship TOGETHER Down Here,
So We Can Serve Him TOGETHER Up There"



SERVICE TIMES
Sunday Morning Worship: 11:00 am
Sunday Youth Church: 11:00 am
Sunday School: 9:30 am
Sunday New Members Class: 9:45 am
Wednesday Prayer Meeting/Bible Study: 6:00 pm

MONTHLY MEETINGS
Singles Ministry – 2nd Thursday
Marriage Ministry – 3rd Thursday: 7:00 pm
Ladies Ministry – 1st Friday: 7:00 pm
Youth Ministry – 2nd Saturday: 2:00 pm

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REGULAR MEETING, MAY 10, 2004

The Regular Meeting of the Romulus Board of Education held on Monday, May 10, 2004, was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by President Betty M. Lenossi.

Roll call showed members Lenossi, Cheryle Buckley, April Frayer, Michael Woods, Celeste Roscoe, Kenneth Mientkiewicz, and Niema White present. Administrators present were: Joel R. Carr, Superintendent; William Routhier, Director of Business and Operations; Thomas Dolan, Director of Curriculum; and Ed Clark, Director of Human Resources.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Lenossi.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

5/04/1 Moved by Mientkiewicz supported by White to approve the Agenda as presented. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

5/04/2 Moved by Buckley supported by Frayer to approve the Minutes of April 26, 2004, as presented. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:

Personnel Actions

Mr. Ed Clark, Director of Human Resources, offered the following personnel actions for Board approval.

EMPLOYMENT: Jenny Sayer, English Teacher, Community High School, Effective April 27, 2004.

5/04/3 Moved by Woods supported by Buckley that the Board of Education approve the employment of personnel as submitted by Mr. Ed Clark, Director of Human Resources. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

FYI – RESIGNATION: Tonya Carter, Paraprofessional, Wick Elementary School, Effective April 22, 2004.

Bills for Payment

5/04/4 Moved by White supported by Buckley to approve the Bills for Payment as presented by Mr. William Routhier, Director of Business and Operations. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Special Education to Halecreek – Expansion for Mt. Pleasant

Mr. William Routhier, Director of Business and Operations, informed the Board of Education that the Thermonomics coating to improve chiller efficiency was installed in Wick Elementary on April 28, 2004. Also, plans are underway to provide three classrooms at Mt. Pleasant. Some of this is to be accomplished by moving Ms. Jeffery Royal and staff to Halecreek Elementary for the start of the 2004/2005 school year.

Board Presentation – CSRD

Chris Smith, CSRD Coordinator, reviewed a PowerPoint presentation on an update/review of goals and objectives for the CSRD grant.

Communications and Expressions from the Public

Mr. Darnell Anderson appeared before the Board of Education with concerns of dual enrollment and mentioned concerns with senior high school projects.

Items of Interest from the Superintendent

Mr. Joel R. Carr, Superintendent, shared the following items of interest with members of the Board of Education: 1) Cory Elementary Newsletter; 2) Halecreek Elementary Newsletter; 3) Wick Elementary Newsletter; 4) Romulus Middle School Newsletter; 5) Alberta Garrett – Club Bibliotheque; 6) David Cooper, Jane Johnston, Andrew Stewart – Robotics; 7) Shawn Shivnen – Quiz Bowl; 8) Serena Kessler – A Midsummer Night's Dream; 9) Dan Hurst – Communication – Tom Dolan; 10) Halecreek Elementary "Hawk Talk"; 11) Communication from Middle School Parent; 12) Itinerary – RHS – Washington, D.C., Field Trip; 13) May–June Calendar; 14) Romulus Elementary Newsletter; 15) The Merriman Star; 16) Congratulations – Sue Mitchell, Bill Garland, Betty Santo, Laura Smith, Kellie Knight; and 17) Education Excellence Awards Luncheon Brochure – Betty Lenossi.

QUESTIONS AND/OR CONCERNS OF BOARD MEMBERS:

Mrs. Betty Lenossi spoke on Barth Elementary receiving an award from the Michigan Association of School Boards (one of 32 for the state) for their "No Bullying" program. Mr. Kenneth Mientkiewicz mentioned his displeasure with last year's yearbook. He further confirmed that this year's yearbook will be out on time. It's paid for and making a profit. The yearbook staff was congratulated on the 100% turnaround so far. Mrs. Cheryle Buckley asked about the status of hiring a food-service person. Mr. William Routhier, Director of Business and Operations, informed the Board that the Administration is in the process of conducting interviews for that position. Mr. Mientkiewicz asked if they could possibly decrease the number of entrées. Mrs. Celeste Roscoe extended a thank-you to teachers who put in a lot of time on trips that they took. She went to Gettysburg, and everyone commented on how well Romulus students behaved. She extended a thank-you to students for being "jewels" and to teachers for their dedication and for giving of their time.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

5/04/5 Moved by Woods supported by White to convene into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing negotiations. Roll call vote: White, Mientkiewicz, Roscoe, Woods, Buckley, Frayer, and Lenossi. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

The Board convened into Executive Session at 7:25 p.m.

5/04/6 Moved by Mientkiewicz supported by White to convene into Regular Session. Roll call vote: White, Mientkiewicz, Roscoe, Woods, Buckley, Frayer, and Lenossi. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

The Board convened into Regular Session at 7:56 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

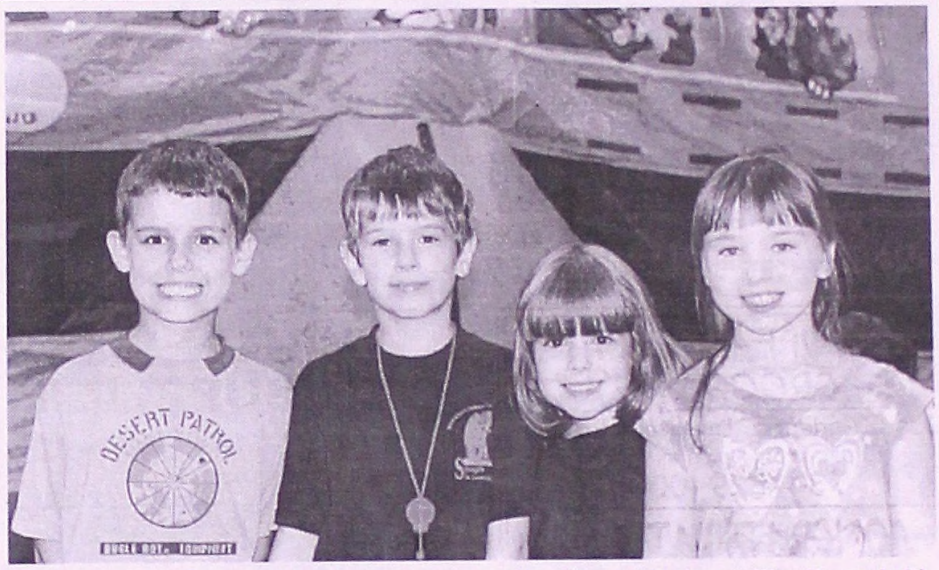
5/04/7 Moved by Buckley supported by White that the meeting be adjourned. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
April Frayer, Secretary
Romulus Board of Education

Romulus Elementary

Student Zaakirah Roper received a special balloon from the clown at the Romulus Elementary School Fair.



Four large, inflated attractions drew smiles from students like (from left) Jacob Kopenhafer, Brad Swistera, Michela Thomas, and Rebecca Dobbyn.

At the ticket table were: (from left) front – Sheila Hill and Sandra Coleman; back – Averianna White, fair coordinator/Romulus Board of Education trustee Niema White, Lazonja Smith, and her daughter.

At one of the craft tables were (from left) Jasmine Harmon, Karyna Smith, Ashley Kendricks, Lazonja Smith, Diane Crockett, Tia Wells, Camisha and Brittany Powe, and Rosemary Steed.

Girl Scouts gave principal Lynne Mossoian (second from left) a "peace pole" (with "peace on earth" in several languages) at the school's recent Multicultural Night. Scouts included: (from left) front – LaShantee Pearson, Abigail Wisiak, Symone Martin, Averianna Richey, and Chelsea Smith; back – Brittny Francis, Latoya Colvin, Caylin Mines, and Ashley Swistara.

A display of flags from various nations was among the many exhibits featured during Multicultural Night. Among those preparing to tour the displays were (from left) Janae Johnson, Wenona Pearson, Aaron Kuhn, Ryan Kuhn, Denna Kuhn, fair coordinator/Board of Education trustee Niema White, Elizabeth Ward, and Dustin Ward.

Sassy Seniors

Guests enjoying the Romulus Senior Center's recent Mother's Day Tea included (from left) Joanne Demmick, Theresa Bizek, Cheryl Blanton, and Sylvia Dubisky.

By Mary E. Clark

Special thanks to Linda Norman, senior citizens program coordinator for the City of Romulus Department of Parks and Recreation, for contributing information to this issue's "Sassy Seniors" column. (For more information about events at the Romulus Senior Center, located at 36515 Bibbins in the downtown area, please call 734-955-4120.)

Flag Day

The Romulus Senior Center is inviting the public to attends its third annual Flag Day celebration, set for Monday, June 14, at 6:30 p.m. The program will feature recognition of local servicemen and -women, as well as music, door prizes, and light refreshments. The first 50 people to register will receive a free gift. Call the Center for more information.

Father's Day Breakfast

Celebrate dads everywhere on Monday, June 21, when the Romulus Senior Center will host a Father's Day breakfast at 9 a.m. The morning menu will feature scrambled eggs, sausage links and bacon, hash browns, biscuits and sausage gravy, a fruit tray, muffins and sweet rolls, and a variety of beverages, including milk, juice, and coffee. Cost is just $4.50 per person. Preregister at the Center by Wednesday, June 16.

Fishing Trip

Fishermen and -women will want to mark their calendars for Wednesday, June 16, when the Romulus Senior Center will take a trip to Dexter for some summer fishing fun. A cost of $10 per person covers transportation (bus will depart from the Center at 9:30 a.m.), admission, fishing equipment, and a picnic lunch. Participants pay for the fish they catch ($4.50 per pound; no throwbacks permitted). Sign up at the Center.

Movie Day

The Romulus Senior Center will be showing *Runaway Bride* at 1 p.m. on Friday, June 25. Light refreshments will be served.

Tigers Baseball

The Romulus Senior Center will be traveling to Comerica Park on Thursday, June 3, to watch the significantly improved Detroit Tigers take on the Kansas City Royals. Cost for outfield box seats is $17 per person. Advance sign-up is required.

Special Trips

Seniors interested in more information about these or other special trips that have been planned by the Romulus Senior Center should call Linda Norman, senior program coordinator.

- ***Down-home Country Mystery*** (August 11–14; $490); and
- ***National Parks of the Golden West*** (August 14–28; $1348).

Note: Deposits – due at the time of sign-up – reserve your seat. For day trips, full payment is due at least two weeks before departure. For overnight trips, full payment is due a minimum of 30 days before departure.

Regular Programs

Besides the many special activities offered at the Romulus Senior Center, a number of regularly scheduled free or low-cost programs are also open to local senior citizens.

They include:

- ceramics (Mondays, 12:30 p.m.),
- Club One (Tuesdays, 11 a.m.),
- bunco (Tuesdays, 1 p.m.),
- bingo (Wednesdays, 1 p.m.),
- "fun night" (Wednesdays, 5 p.m.),
- pinochle (Thursdays, 12:30 p.m.),
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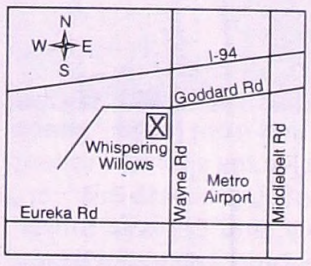

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Obituaries

Clarence R. DePas

Clarence R. DePas of Belleville, Michigan, passed away on Sunday, May 9, 2004, at the age of 80.

The native of Wilson, Michigan, was born on Thursday, June 28, 1923.

Clarence proudly served his country in the U.S. Marines during World War II. He belonged to Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 9568 (Romulus, MI) and Eagles Aerie 3996 (Van Buren Township, MI), and was a former member of Moose Lodge 934 (Belleville).

Surviving Clarence are his son, Richard (Carol) DePas (Belleville); 2 siblings; a granddaughter, Rebecca (Ryan) Dalton; and 2 great-grandchildren, Sabrie and Tyler Dalton.

Among those who preceded him in death were his parents, Eligher and Mildred (Routheaux) DePas, as well as 1 sibling.

Cremation rites were accorded.

Arrangements were made by David C. Brown Funeral Home (Belleville).

Memorial tributes to Romulus VFW Post 9568 would be appreciated.

Ronald A. Hall

Ronald A. Hall of Romulus, Michigan, passed away on Sunday, May 9, 2004, at the age of 77.

The native of Solihull, England, was born on Tuesday, March 29, 1927.

Ronald was employed at Kelsey-Hayes from 1960 until his retirement in 1988, and belonged to Kelsey-Hayes United Auto Workers Local 78. The former member of the National Rifle Association enjoyed hunting, fishing, gardening, and TV.

Surviving Ronald are his wife, Shirley K. (Lesperance) Hall; a son, Ted (Annie) Hall (Romulus); a daughter, Ms. Vicki L. Whaley (Romulus); 2 brothers, Yves and Alain Hall (France); a sister, Mrs. Stanley (Diane) Butcher (England); a grandson, Teddy Hall; a stepmother, Marie Hall (France); and a beloved pet, "Sassy."

Among those who preceded him in death were his parents, Arthur W. and Jessica (Phillips) Hall; a brother, Ted Hall, who died in World War II in 1945; and 2 sisters, Marcella (1955) and Berle (1945).

A funeral service was held on Sunday, May 16, at Westland Christian Union Church (Westland, MI), with Pastor Neil Swanger officiating. Cremation rites were accorded.

Arrangements were made by Crane Funeral Home (Romulus).

Ivadell L. "Ivy" Horn

Ivadell L. "Ivy" Horn of Romulus, Michigan – formerly of New Boston, Michigan – passed away on Sunday, May 16, 2004, at the age of 71.

The Romulus native was born to the late Allie E. and Helen E. (Cook) Hoagland on Thursday, November 17, 1932.

Ivy's family meant everything to her. The devoted wife, mother, and grandmother belonged to St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church, where she enjoyed performing volunteer work whenever she could.

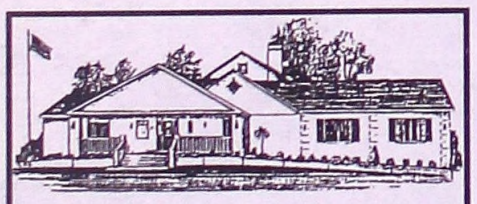
Surviving Ivy are her husband of more than 50 years, Arnold R. Horn; a son, Raymond (Peggy) Horn (Westland, MI); a daughter, Donna (Larry) Simpson (New Boston); 3 sisters, Blanche (Jerry) Rocheleau (Tucson, AZ), Lydia (Earl) Curry (New Boston), and Sharon (Bill) Harmon (New Boston); 2 grandsons, Ronnie (Sarah) Tupacz (VA) and Anthony Simpson (New Boston); and a great-grandson, Alexander Tupacz (VA).

Among those who predeceased her were a brother and sister-in-law, Harry and Mary Hoagland, and a nephew, Larry Hoagland.

A funeral service was held on Thursday, May 20, at St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church, with Pastor D. Lee Cullen, Jr., officiating. Interment was at Michigan Memorial Park (Flat Rock).

Arrangements were made by David C. Brown Funeral Home (Belleville, MI).

Memorial tributes to the Horn family would be appreciated.



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Margaret E. Staffeld

Margaret E. Staffeld of Romulus, Michigan, passed away on Saturday, May 8, 2004, at the age of 85.

The native of Wayne, Michigan, was born on Wednesday, December 4, 1918.

Margaret, an active member of Kirby Free Will Baptist Church (Taylor, MI), belonged to the church's senior citizen group as well as the Ladies Auxiliary of Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 3596 (Plains, MT). She enjoyed traveling and eating out, and *always* remained young at heart.

Surviving Margaret are 2 sons, Donald (Anna) Staffeld (Brownstown, MI) and Dennis Staffeld (Foster City, CA); a daughter, Carol (Larry) Harris (Plains, MT); 5 grandchildren, Shannon (Kenneth) Benson, Calvin (Lenka) Harris, David (Melinda) Staffeld, James (Tricia) Staffeld, and Robert Staffeld; and 6 great-grandchildren.

Among those who preceded her in death were her husband, Gerald Staffeld (January 3, 1983); her parents, Jay B. and Edna N. (Killen) Bills; a brother, Claude Bennett (1996), and a sister, Mildred Martin (1956).

A funeral service was held at Kirby Free Will Baptist Church, with Pastor Mike Trimble officiating. Interment was at Cadillac Memorial Gardens–West (Westland, MI).

Arrangements were made by Crane Funeral Home (Romulus).

Memorial tributes to the church or to the American Heart Association would be appreciated. ❑

Officer, Community Lose Faithful Friend

His friendly face was familiar to many residents who saw him demonstrate his law-enforcement skills at local festivals, school gatherings, and other community events during his six and a half years of faithful service.

Smokey, K9 partner of Romulus Police Officer Don Leonard, died on May 17 of complications due to surgery.

"This is a tragic event for my family and me," said Leonard. "He was not just a dog; he was my partner, a police officer, and a friend."

Leonard first noticed that something was wrong with Smokey about a week before his passing. On Sunday, May 9, he began showing signs of lethargy, and refused food the following day. Although his appetite improved on Tuesday, he was still moving slowly, so Leonard took him to the vet on Wednesday.

When blood work showed that Smokey was losing red cells, the vet took X rays that revealed a suspicious mass (which turned out to be cancer) in the area of the dog's spleen. An ultrasound was scheduled for the following day, and Smokey was sent home.

Later that evening, the Leonard family left their house briefly. When they returned, they found Smokey lying, unmoving, in the hall. Officer Leonard took the dog to an emergency vet, where exploratory surgery disclosed that the dog's spleen had ruptured, filling his body cavity with blood. The doctor was able to keep Smokey alive, but offered little hope for the long term.

Despite early indications that his partner was beginning to recover,

Smokey

Leonard found a very sick Smokey in his bathroom on Monday morning.

"I saw Smokey lying on the floor in the dark," Leonard explained. "He was not acting normally and I turned on the light. It was then that I saw that he had thrown up and was in extreme distress. I tried to help him, but was unable to save my partner's life. Smokey expired in my arms at his home.

"He was the best partner I ever have had. I would have done anything in my power to save him," he added.

"To everyone who loved Smokey, know that he loved you, too," Leonard said. ❑

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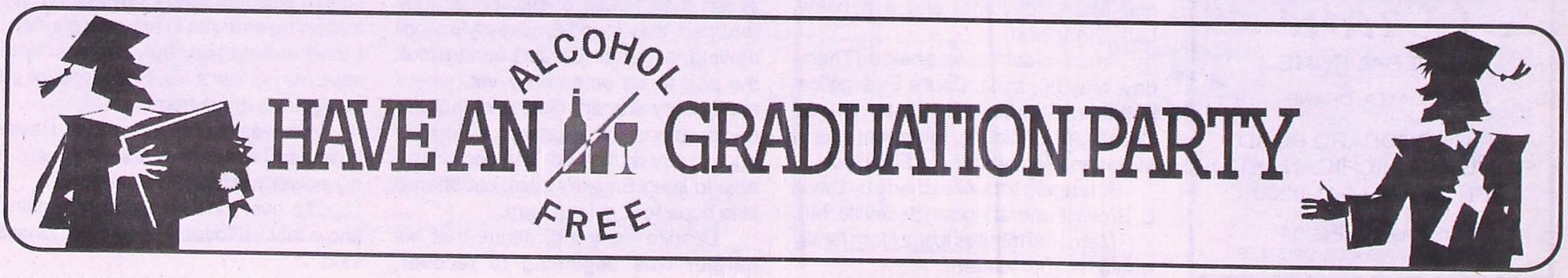
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